

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION OF: Sumihiko Yagenji

SERIAL NO: Not assigned GROUP ART UNIT: Not assigned

FILED: Herewith EXAMINER: Not assigned

CUSTOMER NO.: 27162

FOR: HARD DISK DRIVE UNIT AND ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD

ATTY/DKT NO.: 505500-79

MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a), Applicant(s) hereby cite(s) the enclosed documents listed on the attached copy of Form PTO-1449 which are believed to be material to the patentability of the above-identified application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with the paragraph of 37 CFR §1.97 indicated below:

X §1.97(b) This Information Disclosure Statement is filed:

- (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application; OR
- (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage of an international application; OR
- (3) Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits.
No fee or statement is required.

 §1.97(c) This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the period specified in paragraph (b) above, but before the mailing date of either:

- (1) A Final Action or under 37 CFR §1.113; OR
- (2) A Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR §1.311; AND is accompanied by either: (check one)
 - The statement as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e) set out below; OR
 - The fee of \$180.00 under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

§1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of either:

- (1) a Final Action or under 37 CFR §1.113; OR
- (2) A Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR §1.311;

BUT filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee; AND
is accompanied by:

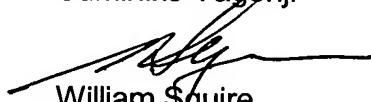
- (1) The statement as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e) as set forth below; AND
- (2) Petition is hereby made under 37 CFR §1.97(d) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; AND,
- (3) The petition fee of \$180.00 set out in 37 CFR §1.17(i).

 §1.97(e) The undersigned Attorney hereby states that:

- each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
- no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, or to the knowledge of the undersigned Attorney after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-0678.

Respectfully submitted,
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Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT			Atty. Docket:		Serial No.:		
			505500-79		Not assigned		
			Applicant: Sumihiko Yagenji				
			Filing Date: Herewith		Group: Not assigned		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	A1	6,308,961	Oct. 30, 2001	Kunikane et al.	360	106	Oct. 1, 1999
	B1	6,525,931	Feb. 25, 2003	Yagenji et al.	361	685	Jan. 9, 2001
	C1						
	D1						
	E1						
	F1						
	G1						
	H1						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation
	I1	10-331981	Dec. 15, 1998	Japan, abstract			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	J1	JP11-232833	Aug. 27, 1999	Japan, abstract			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	K1	JP 11-44362	Feb. 16, 1999	Japan, abstract			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	L1	JP 2001-311470	Nov. 9, 2001	Japan, abstract			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	M1						
	N1						
	O1						
	P1						
	Q1						
Examiner:				Date Considered:			
EXAMINER:		Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.					